

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL
SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP
MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2011**

The bi-monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, January 10, 2011, in the cafeteria of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street in Bristol, RI. The Chairperson, John C. Bento, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:09 PM.

Present: John C. Bento, Chair, Paul Silva, Vice-Chair, William M. O'Dell, Treasurer, Karen A. Lynch, Secretary, Denise R. Arsenault, Diana B. Campbell, Marjorie J. McBride, Susan Rancourt and John P. Saviano; Melinda L. Thies, Superintendent; Mario J. Andrade, Assistant Superintendent; Pauline A. Silva, Director of Administration and Finance; Mary N. Almeida, Director of Literacy and Title I; Leslie J. Anderson, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; and Andrew D. Henneous, Esq., District Solicitor

Absent: none

OPENING BUSINESS

All present were invited to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Presentation

The “History Kids”, a group of students organized and supervised by Colt Andrews teacher Carol Glanville, meet weekly to learn lessons of local history and bring them to life. The History Kids, dressed in period costumes, created displays and provided narrative about many historic sites throughout Bristol. Mrs. Glanville said Bristol is blessed with so many museums; there are over 35 History Kids who have done over 1000 hours of work in museums, creating posters and helping out at Coggeshall Farm and Linden Place and with the Veterans Memorial Day Program. Mrs. Campbell mentioned the History Kids will be helping Mosaico with their Tea and the Governors activity. Mr. Bento thanked Mrs. Glanville and the students for their presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PUBLIC FORUM

None

BUDGET FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. O'Dell said the next meeting will be next Tuesday, January 18, at 6:30 PM in the Superintendent's Office; to be discussed are a review of funding for the past three years and what will be necessary to

control our budget, as well as the funding formula.

POLICY/ COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE

Mrs. Arsenault said their meeting scheduled for January 31 is moved to February 7, 6:30 to 8:00 PM in the Herreshoff Community Room at the Rogers Free Library.

Mr. Bento announced the School Committee will be hosting a meeting with Commissioner Gist on January 31, 7:00 PM in the Mt. Hope High School Auditorium. Mrs. McBride said she will be unable to attend this meeting as her husband will be having his wisdom teeth removed on that day.

Wellness Committee

Mrs. Campbell reported their next meeting is this Wednesday, January 19; 4:30 PM in Room M108 at Mt. Hope High School; the group will continue with their plans for their Week of Wellness Event in March.

PERSONNEL/ CONTRACT NEGOTIATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Saviano said negotiations with BWEA officially begin on Thursday, January 13; the team is looking forward to it.

FUTURE ENROLLMENT AND FACILITIES TASK FORCE

Mrs. Lynch said they continue to do background research; there is nothing new to report at this time; she will have more specific information next month.

CHAIRPERSON'S INITIATIVES

Mt. Hope High School Program of Studies

Mr. Bento informed the Committee that traditionally, high school representatives present to the Committee at a workshop the changes in the Program; the Program is voted on at the following business meeting; this year there are no changes in the Program, so Mr. Crowley will attend the January business meeting to answer questions before the Committee takes action.

Mrs. Campbell raised concern about new policies being ready for inclusion in the student handbooks that are prepared in the spring, hoping a special addendum to the handbooks will not be necessary.

February Workshop Date

Mr. Bento mentioned that although February 14 is Valentine's Day, the Workshop will be held on that day as scheduled. Mrs. Saviano asked if this was subject to negotiation because many people have

prior commitments and a quorum may not be reached. Mr. Bento said the meeting will focus on School Committee Goals, Superintendent's Goals, NECAP results, and goals for the next two years; he asked that any comments or requests be addressed to him.

School Liaison Appointments

Mr. Bento said two appointments have yet to be made, so he will email them out to everyone at the end of the week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: At 7:24 PM Mrs. McBride motioned to go into Executive Session to discuss a litigation case, bond counsel and collective bargaining updates. Mrs. Campbell seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bento announced that a decision may have to be reported when open session resumes.

Mrs. Arsenault will join in discussion of the two items other than collective bargaining; she will recuse herself from that discussion.

RESUMPTION OF MEETING – 8:39 PM

In Executive Session, the Committee discussed the topics mentioned above. Mrs. Arsenault had recused herself from the collective bargaining discussion and left the meeting at 8:20 PM.

MOTION: Mr. Silva motioned to authorize Attorney Henneous to resolve the US District Court DRI Case No. 09-07 S.E. litigation matter; Mrs. Campbell seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 8 to 0.

ADJOURNMENT – 8:41 PM

MOTION: There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. McBride, seconded by Mr. Silva, motioned to adjourn at 8:41 PM. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Lynch, Secretary

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